

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 COA-01 CIAE-00

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R 262209Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9263

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 588

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, PINR, LT

SUBJ: LOS: BIO ON LESOTHO AMB TO IRAN, MOOLI MOLAPO

REFS: A. MASERU 176

B. USUN 4661 OF 1974 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING IS RECAP OF USUN'S PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF
MOLAPO, AS INITIALLY FORWARDED REF B:

WE HAVE FOUND (OUTGOING PERMREP) MOLAPO, WITH WHOM WE
HAVE HAD A CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP, TO BE FRIENDLY AND
USUALLY REALISTIC, BUT PREDICTABLY HYPER-SENSITIVE OVER
LESOTHO'S POSITION VIS-A-VIS SOUTH AFRICA. OUR OWN
EXPERIENCE IS THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN OVERLY SHRILL IN UN
STATEMENTS CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICA; RATHER, THAT HE HAS SAID
WHAT HE HAS HAD TO IN ORDER TO KEEP HIS CREDENTIALS
GOOD BOTH WITH HIS NEIGHBORS AND WITH THOSE NORTH OF
THE ZAMBEZI.

MOLAPO WAS OFTEN AT LOGGERHEADS WITH LESOTHO AMBASSADOR
TO WASHINGTON, MANARE. MOLAPO ENDEAVORED TO MAKE END-RUNS
AND CONDUCT AS MUCH BILATERAL BUSINESS IN NEW YORK
AS HE COULD, OFTEN DESCRIBING HIS DEMARCHES HERE AS
HAVING BEEN INITIATED BY TELEPHONIC REQUESTS FROM PRIME
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MINISTER JONATHAN.

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